

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 44, 49-52 and 54-58 are pending in this application. Claims 44, 49-51 and 55-56 are allowed. Claims 44, 49-50 have been amended to remove references to Figures and to refer to SEQ ID NOs in the claims, merely to present these claims in better form without impacting on the allowability of these claims. Claims 52-54 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer towards further filings of their subject matter in subsequent continuation or divisional applications. Rejections to the pending claims are respectfully traversed.

Claim Rejections- 102(b)

Claims 52 and 54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ricke *et al.*, (31 December 1997).

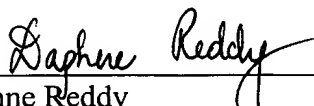
Since claims 52 and 54 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, therefore these rejections are moot and this rejection should be withdrawn.

The present application is believed to be in *prima facie* condition for allowance, and an early action to that effect is respectfully solicited.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-1641 (Attorney Docket No.: 39780-1618P2C80). Please direct any calls in connection with this application to the undersigned at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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